Mr. President: May I explain to the Hon'ble Member. The Rent Control Order was passed under the Defence of India Rules. The Defence of India Act and the rules made under it were withdrawn as from the end of September. To replace the essential control rules and orders, His Highness the Maharaja was pleased to issue necessary proclamations and these proclamations are now, one by one, being replaced by regular Acts of this Council. Until such time as the Council passes the legislation the proclamations should remain in force and under this R ent Control Proclamation, this staff will be required even though the House has not yet passed the legislation.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* It was stated by the Hon'ble Minister for Revenue who moved the demand that under the operation of the proclamation which is in vogue now the Rent Control Officer will be receiving applications and similar things. But unless the Bill becomes an Act after the receipt of the Select Committee report and the subsequent stages what has he to do with the application? His business is to fix enhance or reduce rent and similar things, as embodied both in the proclamation as also in the Bill that is in the Select Committee. Is it not necessary that we wait.

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon *(Advocate-General):* This is to cover the period of the interregnum. After the lapsing of the Defence of India Rules the House Rent Control Proclamation is in force. The proclamation provides for certain reliefs and a Rent Controller has been appointed for that purpose. He will have to work the provisions of the proclamations till the Bill which is before the Select Committee becomes law. So till that period the Controller has to work it. For that a staff is required. The controller must work from the date from which he was appointed till the date when the Bill becomes law. I understand that the additional allotment asked for is to meet the cost of the Rent Controller and his Staff.

Mr. Parambi Lonappen *(Irinjalakkuda):* Before the 1st October was there any Controller?

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Minister for Revenue):* Yes. The Tahsildar.

Mr. Parambi Lonappen *(Irinjalakkuda):* What is the difficulty for the same to continue?

Rao Sahib P. V. Raphael *(Chief Secretary to Government):* It is reported by the Diwan Peishkar that the Tahsildars had too much of their normal work and that it is not possible for them to attend to this work effectively and efficiently.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Minister for Revenue):* And not only that, There is a general talk that a graduate in law should be appointed so that the work may be properly done.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Of course we do not make talks. We make recommendations and representations. I do not think there was a demand in this House for a graduate in law for fixing the rent in preference to a Tahsildar.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Minister for Revenue):* I think it is either by means of questions or resolutions.

Demand, put and carried

(vii) Rs. 3,500—Under "18—Law and Justice—B. 1.—High Court—Books"

Mr. B. V. K. Menon *(Secretary to Government):* I rise to move for a sum of Rs. 3,500 under "18—Law and Justice—B. I.—High Court—Books". Sir, the House was pleased to sanction the necessary additional allotment required for enlarging the Library of the High Court during the last budget session and unfortunately on account of the postal and railway strikes there have been some delay in getting the books and consequently the amount lapsed and the books have already come and payment has to be made this year. Since provision has been made last year no provision has been made this year and hence the need for the additional allotment. I request that the House may be pleased to vote the grant.

Demand, put and carried

3. NON-OFFICIAL RESOLUTIONS—*(cont.)*

10. Committee for a three years plan of Medical relief

*Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* I have very great pleasure to support this very timely resolution that has been tabled by my Hon'ble Friend in the bench behind. What the resolution seeks for, Sir, is a committee—a committee to do the work of preparing an intelligible workable plan, to see that the necessary medical relief is made available to the villagers of Cochin. When I said the villagers of Cochin I do not exclude the town folk. The emphasis is

*Speech not corrected by the Hon'ble Member.

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